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is especially annoying in many text-books, as they are very often read by artificial light.

R. A. P.

Solid Geometry. By SOPHIA FOSTER RICHARDSON. Boston: Ginn and Company. Pp. 209. 90 cents.

Miss Richardson has written a scholarly book with some interesting features. She is evidently opposed to the tendency in some quarters to minimize the subject of solid geometry, for this book is a maximum as compared with the usual course now given in schools and colleges. It reflects a teacher who thoroughly enjoys the subject.

The incommensurable case is given unusual attention in that twenty pages of the appendix are devoted to the theory of irrational numbers and the theory of limits. This extreme treatment may well prove unfitted for the average college freshman. The book is said, however, to be just as well adapted for the entire omission of the incommensurable case. The volume of the rectangular parallelepiped is proved without using any of the theorems on the ratio between such parallelepipeds; the three dimensions being assumed commensurable with the unit in the commensurable case.

The book is explicit in stating some of the axioms of continuity and betweenness that are usually taken implicitly.

Most of the theorems are proved in full, and when proofs are omitted the reason sometimes seems to be the relative unimportance of the proposition rather than its fitness for original proof by the pupil.

On the whole the book does not seem adapted to secondary school pupils, but it will prove worth examining for those who wish a full course for college freshmen.

Vocational Arithmetic. By H. D. VINCENT. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company. Pp. 126. 55 cents.

This book is composed of one hundred lessons on one hundred business problems, including such diverse topics as express, road building, wagon making, school financing, poultry raising, living expenses, street cars, milk industry, and cotton raising.

Each lesson contains questions of general interest regarding the industry, a list of its words to be spelled, and some requirements in writing business forms, besides the problem itself.

The problems all give practise in the use of the fundamental operations with simple numbers as they are used in the less complex operations of daily life. They might be criticised, however, in that they nearly all reduce to a credit and debit accounting of a transaction, and therefore are too much a repetition of the same methods and operations.

The book was originally written for night schools, and it seems to have a place in their work. While it is doubtful whether it would serve as an elementary school text, it has much that will repay examination by teachers in such schools.

Ann of the Blossom Shop. By ISLA MAY MULLINS. Boston: The Page Company. Pp. 308. \$1.00 net.

A delightful story of the South and a sequel to "The Blossom Shop," bringing in the same character and describing the everyday life and "growing up" of some of them. It is a splendid book, especially for young people.

A Review of Algebra. By ROMEYN H. RIVENBURG. New York: American Book Company. Pp. 80.

This is a review book intended for a two period a week course in the senior year of the high school. It gives the various topics in very condensed form, with lists of examples of the important types. Twenty-three pages are used for college entrance examinations.

Vocational Mathematics. By WILLIAM H. DOOLEY. Boston: D. C. Heath and Company. Pp. 341.

This book does not pretend to replace the usual work in mathematics, but is planned to supplement it by giving practice in applying its principles. It includes the commonly used parts of arithmetic, algebra, geometry and trigonometry, and seems not only to be well fitted to technical schools, but to have much of value to any teacher of mathematics.

The Teaching of Algebra (Including Trigonometry). By T. PERCY NUNN. London: Longmans, Green & Company. Pp. xiv + 616. \$2.00.

Exercises in Algebra (Including Trigonometry). By T. PERCY NUNN. London: Longmans, Green & Company. Part I., pp. x + 356. \$1.10. Part II., pp. xi + 514. \$1.75.

These three books constitute one series. The author, who is professor of education in the University of London, has written a handbook of his lectures to teachers ("The Teaching of Algebra"), and to accompany this has collected exercises covering what he believes should be taught in "all stages of school instruction in the subject." The work is much more inclusive than is usual in the United States, as it contains plane and spherical trigonometry, and the elements of calculus.

The author's purpose in the teaching of mathematics is twofold: to give an understanding of the use and importance of "mathematics as an instrument of material conquests and of social organization," and to give an appreciation of the "value and significance of an ordered system of mathematics" in itself. The other aims of its teaching are all considered as comprehended in these two.

The plan of the series is unusual. In "The Teaching of Algebra" about fifty pages are given to introductory matter, and the rest of the book is divided into two parts, the first dealing with Part I. of "Exercises in Algebra," the second with Part II. In these parts, the author discusses the theory underlying the exercises under the various topics in the other books, indicates that which needs emphasis, and, in general, guides the teacher in the choice of material and the method of handling it.